

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A method ~~according to Claim 1 wherein said~~ for the selective enrichment of prostate cancer stem cells which express CD133 and high levels of  $\alpha_2\beta_1$  integrin which comprises the following steps:

- i) providing a cell preparation comprising prostate cancer stem cells derived from prostate tissue;
- ii) providing cell culture conditions which allow the maintenance of said prostate cancer stem cells in culture and the binding of said prostate cancer stem cells to a collagen based matrix;
- iii) selecting said bound cells wherein said cells express CD133 antigen.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 3 wherein said method includes the additional steps of:

- i)iv) culturing prostate cancer stem cells which express CD133 antigen in culture medium comprising granulocyte macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF), stem cell factor (SCF) and leukaemia inhibitory factor (LIF); and
- ii)v) passaging the selected prostate cancer stem cells in (i) in a serum free medium.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 3 wherein said selected cells express human epithelial antigen.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3 wherein said selected cells express CD44 antigen.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim ~~[[8]]~~ 3 wherein said cancerous prostate cells are metastatic.
10. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim ~~[[8]]~~ 3 wherein said cancerous prostate cells are from a primary prostate tumour.
11. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3 wherein said collagen based matrix comprises collagen I.
12. (Currently Amended) A prostate cancer stem cell obtainable by the method of Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Currently Amended) A prostate stem cell according to Claim ~~[[13]]~~ 12 wherein said stem cell is cloned.
15. (Currently Amended) A cell culture of ~~substantially pure~~ prostate cancer stem cells wherein said cells express CD133 antigen and  $\alpha_2\beta_1$  integrin.
- 16-17. (Canceled)
18. (Currently Amended) A cell culture according to Claim ~~[[16]]~~ 15 wherein said prostate cancer stem cells express human epithelial antigen.
19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A cell culture according to Claim ~~[[16]]~~15 wherein said prostate cancer stem cells express CD44 antigen.

21. (Currently Amended) A culture according to Claim ~~[[16]]~~15 wherein said prostate cancer stem cells express CD133 antigen,  $\alpha_2\beta_1$  integrin, human epithelial antigen and CD44 antigen.

22-74. (Canceled)